

What is claimed is:

1. An electronic device comprising:

2 a support socket; and

a support sensor configured to detect a support connected to said support socket.

2. An electronic device as recited in claim 1, wherein said electronic device changes a

2 mode of operation when a support is detected by said support sensor.

3. An electronic device as recited in claim 2, wherein said electronic device is a camera.

4. An electronic device as recited in claim 3, wherein said camera is a digital camera.

5. An electronic device as recited in claim 2, wherein said changed mode of operation

2 includes disabling an image stabilization apparatus.

6. An electronic device as recited in claim 5, wherein said electronic device is a camera.

7. An electronic device as recited in claim 5, wherein said electronic device is a pair of

2 image stabilized binoculars.

8. An electronic device as recited in claim 2, wherein said electronic device is

2 configured such that a user may disable said device from changing said mode of operation.

9. An electronic device as recited in claim 2, wherein said support socket is a ¼ inch -

2 20 threaded tripod socket.

10. An electronic device as recited in claim 2, wherein said support socket is a 3/8 inch

2 threaded tripod socket.

11. An electronic device as recited in claim 2, wherein said support socket is a tripod

2 quick release plate.

12. An electronic device as recited in claim 2, wherein said changed mode of operation

2 includes changing a first shutter speed to a second shutter speed, and changing a first aperture to a second aperture.

13. An electronic device as recited in claim 12, wherein said second shutter speed is

2 slower than said first shutter speed, and said second aperture is smaller than said
first aperture.

14. A quick release plate comprising:

2 a support sensor configured to detect when said quick release plate is attached to a
support; and

4 a signal port connected to said support sensor configured to non-permanently
electrically connect to a device signal port, wherein an electronic device changes a
6 mode of operation when said quick release plate is attached to said support.

15. A quick release plate as recited in claim 14, wherein said electronic device is a
2 camera.

16. A quick release plate as recited in claim 15, wherein said camera is a digital camera.

17. An electronic device comprising:

2 means for attaching said electronic device to a support;

means for detecting when said device is attached to said support; and

4 means for changing a mode of operation of said device when said device is attached
to said support.

18. An electronic device as recited in claim 17, wherein said electronic device is a
2 camera.

19. An electronic device as recited in claim 18, wherein said camera is a digital camera.

20. An electronic device as recited in claim 17, wherein said means for changing a mode
2 of operation includes disabling an image stabilization apparatus.

21. An electronic device as recited in claim 20, wherein said electronic device is a pair of
2 image stabilized binoculars.

22. An electronic device as recited in claim 20, wherein said electronic device is a
2 camera.

23. An electronic device as recited in claim 17, wherein said means for attaching is a ¼
2 inch - 20 threaded tripod socket.

24. An electronic device as recited in claim 17, wherein said means for attaching is a 3/8
2 inch threaded tripod socket.

25. An electronic device as recited in claim 17, wherein said means for attaching is a
2 tripod quick release plate.

26. An electronic device as recited in claim 17, wherein said changed mode of operation
2 includes changing a first shutter speed to a second shutter speed, and changing a
first aperture to a second aperture.

27. An electronic device as recited in claim 26, wherein said second shutter speed is
2 slower than said first shutter speed, and said second aperture is smaller than said
first aperture.

28. A quick release plate comprising:
2 means for attaching said plate to a support;
means for attaching an electronic device to said plate;
4 means for detecting when said plate is attached to said support; and
means for changing a mode of operation of said electronic device when said plate is
6 attached to said support.

29. A quick release plate as recited in claim 28, wherein said electronic device is a
2 camera.

30. A quick release plate as recited in claim 29, wherein said camera is a digital camera.

31. A quick release plate as recited in claim 28, wherein said means for detection
2 comprises a spring-loaded pin.

32. A method for changing a mode of operation in an electronic device comprising the
2 steps of:

a) detecting the presence of a support attached to a support socket;

4 b) selecting a first mode of operation when no support is detected; and

c) selecting a second mode of operation when a support is detected.

33. A method for changing a mode of operation in an electronic device as recited in claim

2 32, wherein said first mode of operation includes a first shutter speed and a first
aperture, and said second mode of operation includes a second shutter speed and a
4 second aperture.

34. A method for changing a mode of operation in an electronic device as recited in claim

2 33, wherein said second shutter speed is slower than said first shutter speed, and said
second aperture is smaller than said first aperture.

35. A method for changing a mode of operation in an electronic device as recited in claim

2 32, wherein said electronic device is a camera.

36. A method for changing a mode of operation in an electronic device as recited in claim

2 35, wherein said camera is a digital camera.